to students in collleges and institutions of various universities in the country without which the education is incomplete;

(b) the steps Government propose to take to ensure that joint research projects are taken in colleges/universities and National Laboratories for making the education more research-oriented; and

(c) the details of measures so far taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) In the University system, teaching, research and extension education are part and parcel of higher education. The course content and the academic orientation are decided by the Universities themselvs, which are autonomous bodies. Most of the Universities including Central, Deemed and State Universities do have infrastructure for providing research facilities for students as part of the teaching programmes. However, the undergraduate colleges and some of the postgraduate colleges may not have similar type of facilities for want of adequate funds.

(b) and (c) The Government, through the UGC, has been implementing various programmes for promoting teaching, research and extension activities in university system in Humanities, Social Sciences, Sciences, Engineering and Technology. The Special Assistance Programme (SAP) and COSIST Programme are two of the major programmes of the UGC.

The present infrastructure facilities created in the SAP and COSIST supported departments have improved teaching and instructions at M.Sc. and Ph.D levels of teaching, specifically the experimental part of the courses.

To promote joint research projects, it was decided that the laboratory and infrastructure in the R&D system, outside the education system such as CSIR, DRDO, DOE, DST & DAE should be utilised not onlly for conducting joint research activities but also for starting specialised education and training programmes using the laboratories and scientific human resources of these institutions.

The UGC has set up the autonomous centres within the university system to provide common facilities, services and programmes to universities which could not be built up in individual university. These IUCs provide faciities for students and teachers for doing collaborative research alongwith close interaction between different departments.

Complaints against officers of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

2082. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the compaints levelled against Group "A" officers of Head Office and Regional Offices of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, during the preceding two years;

(b) the details of the action taken in each of these cases till date; and

(c) the details of the Principals against whom Departmental proceedings have been initiated and contemplated, alongwith the accusations in each case?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

Review Petition of a compulsorily retired Kendriya Vidyalaya teacher

2083. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1913 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th June, 1998 and state:

(a) the date on which the review petition was received;

(b) the date on which it had been rejected; and

(c) whether the procedure prescribed by the Supreme Court in R. P. Bhatt Vs. Union of India (AIR 1986 SC 1040) had been followed scrupulously?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The Review Petition was received on 23.8.1996.

(b) The Review Petition was rejected by the Chairman, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan on 12th March, 1997.

(c) The Review Petition preferred was examined in accordance with Rule 29-A of Cen-

tral Civil Services (Classifications, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1965 as extended to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan empoyees.

Change in the UGC Act

2084. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.G.C. has recommended any changes in the UGC Act; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Government had introduced a Bill in the Rajya Sabha to amend Sections 23 and 24 of the UGC Act to curb the growth of fake Universities and to enhance the penalty for those who contravene the provisions of Section 23 of the UGC Act. The Bill was examined by the Parliamentary Standing Committee and they gave certain recommendations. In the meantime, UGC has submitted a comprehensive proposal to amend some of the provisions of the UGC Act such as those relating to the setting up and affiliation of Universities and Colleges, maintenance of teaching standards, preventing commercialisation of education etc. The Government is actively considering the UGC recommendations.

Review of the Balika Samriddhi Yojana

2085. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the Balika Samriddhi Yojana launched during the 50th year of Independence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount demanded for the project in 1997-98 and the amount sanctioned; and

(d) the number of girls to be covered under the project & actual coverage made?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) An amount of Rs. 148.94 crores was estimated for 1997-98 to benefit 28.37 lakhs girls children. However, due to constraints on resources, an amount of Rs. 60.00 crores was made available to benefit 12.00 lakhs girl children during 1997-98.

Introduction of trains in the Visakhapatnam Sector

2086. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce trains between Visakhapatnam and Bangalore and inter-city train between Visakhapatnam and Bhubaneswar early on public demand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) details of survey work for trains between Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada and overnight express between Visakhapatnam and Madras?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) (a) to (c) It has been decided to introduce a weekly train between Visakhapatnam and Bangalore during 1998-99. Further it has also been decided to introduce Tiruchchirappalli-Howrah Express (tri-weekly) during 1998-99 on the Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam-Bhubaneswar route serving both Visakhapatnam-Chennai and Visakhapatnam-Bhubaneswar sectors.

रेलवे भूमि का व्यावसायिक उपयोग

2087. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:**
श्री रामगोपाल यादव:

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि: (क) क्या रेलवे अपनी भूमि का व्यावसायिक उपयोग करने संबंधी प्रस्ताव पर विचार कर रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किन-किन राज्यों में ऐसी कुल कितनी भूमि (खाली भूमि और अतिरिक्त भूमि) है और किस राज्य में ऐसी सबसे अधिक भूमि है; और

(ग) इस भूमि के व्यावसायिक उपयोग से रेलवे को प्रतिवर्ष कितना राजस्व प्राप्त होगा उससे प्राप्त राशि को किस "मद" के अंतर्गत खर्च किया जाएगा?

रेल मंत्रालय, संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय तथा योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम नाईक): (क) से (ग) जी नहीं, रेलों के पास लगभग 0.25 लाख हैक्टेयर खाली भूमि है जो अनुरक्षण जरूरतों तथा भावी विकासात्मक कार्यों के लिए आवश्यक है, बहरहाल, रेलों का अपने संसाधनों में वृद्धि करने के लिए रेलवे यार्डों/इमारतों के ऊपरी स्थान को, वाणिज्यिक उपयोग में लाने का प्रस्ताव है। मुंबई से बांद्रा में ऐसी एक परियोजना